

## Riyadh urged to facilitate entry

AMMAN (J.T.) — The borders between Jordan and Saudi Arabia are open and not a single person has been turned away and refused entry into Saudi Arabia, according to Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Jordan Mohamed Fayed Al Isam. "Any citizen wishing to travel to Saudi Arabia will not be turned away at the borders and will receive the best treatment as before," said all formalities concerning travel remain the same and without any changes, the ambassador said in a statement to the Jordan Times. He said that Saudi Arabia's embassy in Amman had urged the Saudi Foreign Ministry to offer Jordanian nationals further facilities. The ambassador said that the Jordanians living in Saudi Arabia have not been affected by "any change whatsoever" and that they are well treated.

# Jordan Times

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## King Hussein on what could be ground-breaking Gulf mission

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein, fresh after talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, flew to Washington Tuesday in what was seen as a new effort to mediate the Gulf crisis and explain Jordan's position towards the issue. According to a senior official quoted by the Associated Press, the King, who paid a visit to Baghdad Monday, was carrying a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to U.S. President George Bush.

The King was expected to arrive in Washington Wednesday, and a White House spokesman said Bush, who interrupted a vacation to deal with the Gulf crisis and discussions on the American budget, would hold talks with the King Thursday.

The King will spend Wednesday night in Washington before proceeding to Maine for the meeting with Bush at the president's oceanside home.

Shortly before his departure, the King received Iraqi Labour Minister Ummad Madhat Mubar-

ak, who was believed to have delivered to him a written message from Saddam Hussein outlining a proposal for an international conference on the entire Middle East situation. According to American television, the proposal called for an immediate freeze in U.S. troop deployment in Saudi Arabia, in a marked change from earlier Iraqi demands for an immediate withdrawal of the forces before any discussions.

No further details of the proposal were immediately reported.

The King's trip to Washington is seen as a continuation of mediation efforts he undertook immediately after the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2. The King had managed to produce an agreement for a mini summit of Arab leaders in Jeddah for Aug. 5 and also brought about an Iraqi declaration of withdrawal from Kuwait beginning the same day. However, the effort was aborted when the Arab League council issued a statement Aug. 3 condemning Iraq for its takeover of Kuwait.

Despite the setback, further

compounded by a harsh denunciation of Kuwait by 12 Arab states at an Arab summit held in Cairo last Friday, the King has expressed hope that the Gulf crisis could be resolved if the international powers would give the Arabs a chance to contain the issue under an Arab umbrella.

In Washington, however, President Bush said Tuesday he doubted whether a quick solution could be found to the Gulf crisis.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the King had telephone contacts with the leaders of Yemen, Tunisia, Sudan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), in connection with the crisis.

A few hours after the King's return from Iraq, the new U.S. ambassador to Jordan, Roger Harrison, presented his credentials to King Hussein.

But Bush said he thought the economic sanctions being clamped on Iraq might bring about such a solution.

"I don't see it right now," Bush said at a White House news conference when asked if he saw any hope of a diplomatic solution to

the crisis. "But as these (economic) sanctions begin to take effect — it will take a while — I would hope there would be a diplomatic solution to this crisis."

King Hussein called Bush Monday night and asked for the meeting, White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said.

King Hussein will spend the night in Washington before flying up to Maine Thursday.

The monarch is "expected to arrive in Kennebunkport about noon on Thursday, meet with the president at Walker's Point and depart right after the meeting," the spokesman said.

In the flurry of high-level diplomacy, Bush also was to meet late Tuesday in Washington with Foreign Minister Sheikh Saad Al Sabah of Kuwait.

Bush said he looked forward to his discussion with King Hussein Thursday.

But the president said he knew nothing about any message from Saddam that the King was reportedly to carry.

"I don't know about a period of years but certainly we're going to be there long enough to get the job done."

reference to a phone call in which King Hussein arranged his scheduled visit to Kennebunkport, Maine.

Bush left open the possibility that King Hussein might be bearing such a letter, adding: "He may have it."

Jordan's opposition to foreign military presence in the Gulf has led to U.S.-Jordanian tensions and created a dramatic backdrop for the Maine meeting.

Bush said the United States might extend its blockade to Aqaba if there were proof supplies were flowing through it to Iraq.

"I think at some point it might well be (blockaded) if it's a hole through which commerce flows," he said. "...I would certainly think that Aqaba should be closed to Iraqi commerce."

Asked how long U.S. forces might be tied down in the Gulf and deployed in Saudi Arabia, and whether it might stretch into years, Bush replied:

"I don't know about a period of years but certainly we're going to be there long enough to get the job done."

## Crown Prince: Jordan's stand misunderstood

AMMAN (J.T.) — There is clearly a misunderstanding of Jordan's position in the Gulf crisis and indeed there is indifference on the part of several parties as to listening to Jordan's views in this matter, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said here.

Jordan is committed to the United Nations Security Council resolutions with regard to the application of sanctions on Iraq but for Jordan "it is not a matter of who we are with or against," the Prince said at a press conference at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

"In terms of the implementation of the sanctions you do not just turn off a switch not only in dealing with Iraq but also with Kuwait," Prince Hassan said.

"Of course half of our labour force is in the Gulf generally and a large percentage of them is in Kuwait," sending significant remittances which are important to Jordan and to the West Bankers where again this is an extension of our worry as how can Jordan continue to play a stabilising role as it looks westward," Prince Hassan noted.

"In terms of our relationship with Iraq, we gave credit facilities to Iraq during the war years and again Jordan has financial responsibility."

"In our discussion with the Interna-

tional Monetary Fund," the Prince continued, "we made it clear there is the case of national economy and a case of political economy, and I think as we look at the subject of the implementation of sanctions I think it is easy for others to position navies and to give the subject of sanctions some seriousness." But, he added, "the positioning of navies moved immediately from sanctions to blockade and that blockade is going to affect everyone in the region."

"I think it might be worse of looking into the U.N. Charter where it had to do with any country affected by sanctions that country is clearly eligible for compensation."

The Jordanian government, he added, is holding contacts with the United Nations about the sanctions which do not include food and medical supplies. The U.N. charter, he said, gives countries 30 days to discuss the subject and provides for compensation for countries applying those sanctions.

Referring to the reactions in Jordan to the events in the Gulf, Prince Hassan said that the Jordanian people had been asking why the world did not apply U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 which calls for the withdrawal of all Israeli forces from the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip occupied over 23 years ago by force of arms.

"People in Jordan ask why the world did not rise to rescue Yemen when it was invaded by Egyptian forces which changed that country's regime by force at a time when only Jordan and Saudi Arabia backed the ousted Yemeni leader," Prince Has-

san noted.

He said that questions are also asked about the presence of foreign troops in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf whether they were there to implement the Security Council resolutions or to impose a blockade on Iraq.

The Jordanian people's sympathy with Iraq stems from the fact that Iraq had fought an eight-year long war on behalf of the Arab nation and the Jordanian people feel that foreign troops presence in the Gulf is a continuation of the 1956 events and that these forces have come to take Arab oil," Prince Hassan said.

In order to understand Jordan's position fully, one should view the Middle East region as a whole and to understand that the creation of instability in any one country can be no means help international efforts aimed at finding stability in the rest of the countries, he said. The Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and constant Israeli threats to the Arabs should also be taken into account, he said.

A solution for the Gulf crisis should come from the Arab countries and not through foreign military presence and such a solution is still possible despite the events and the divisions in the Arab World, he said.

What protects Jordan under the present circumstances is the democracy it enjoys and participation by all sectors of the public to fend off danger, the Prince added.

He said Jordan had links with all Arab countries and always seeks to solve disputes in the context of the Arab League without foreign intervention.

Jordanians well and safe in Kuwait and Iraq  
By Ica Wakhbeh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — All Jordanians living in Kuwait and Iraq are doing well, and the Jordanian diplomatic missions to Kuwait City and Baghdad are extending necessary assistance to them, Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Mustafa Bilbeisi said Tuesday.

"No complaints have been reported by any Jordanian living in Kuwait or Iraq" in the wake of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2, Bilbeisi told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

According to Bilbeisi, there are about 420,000 Jordanian nationals, including children, living in Kuwait, and another 30,000 live in Iraq. "Our borders are open and there is no problem whatsoever in their passage to and from Iraq or Kuwait," he said.

Several Jordanian expatriates in Kuwait now vacationing at home or had fled after the Iraqi takeover were unanimous that the treatment they received was "excellent" under the circumstances.

Bilbeisi denied reports of Jordanian expatriates being returned from the Saudi border. "If any one was returned, then the case has not been brought to our attention," he told the Jordan Times.

"This is always the case in periods of instability. We witnessed the same during the 1967 and 1973 wars."

"There is a high demand for foreign exchange in Jordan and in the Gulf," said economist Jawad Antoni. "This is called cash preference because people want to carry money in their pockets for fear of bank closures due to the crisis."

Antoni explained that because of links between Jordan and the Gulf states, the supply of the dollar had declined with the growing demand in the Gulf.

"Cash has become the dearest commodity in here and in the Gulf," he told the Jordan Times.

"This is always the case in periods of instability. We witnessed the same during the 1967 and 1973 wars."

According to reports from the Gulf, most people have dropped gold as they means to hold on to their savings at times of crisis and are now opting for foreign currency, mostly European.

A private businessman and a former moneychanger, Murtaz Kabashi, attributed the run on bank deposits and rush for dollars in Jordan to fears that the Arab

Ministry of Interior sources also confirmed that no complaints were received by the ministry over Jordanians being stopped from entering Saudi territories.

Life was described as normal both in Iraq and in Kuwait, with the Iraqi army behaving in a "brotherly" manner, disciplined, good humored and ready at any time to extend a helping hand.

One of the Jordanians who returned two days ago back from Kuwait by car said: "My car broke down on the Kuwait-Iraqi border. I was at a loss when, from everywhere, Iraqi soldiers came and helped me repair my car."

According to the same source, who preferred to be identified only as Abu Zahra, a food crisis started on Monday, but things are not bleak at all. "I know people who went to the Iraqi army to complain about lack of food and they gave them food for free. They are eager to help anyone."

"How are Jordanians treated in Kuwait and Iraq?"

"We are brothers. Brothers in ideals and in ideology. There is a good feeling towards Jordanians. They are treated well," Abu Zahra added that there seemed to be a "feeling of freedom, of independence in the air."

(Continued on page 5)

Rush for U.S. dollars, withdrawals continues  
By Ghadeer Taher  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Despite assurances by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) that a military confrontation in the Gulf are continuing to cause panic buying of foreign currency in the local market, banks are reporting sizeable withdrawals, according to officials and banking sources.

The Jordanian dinar lost as much as 15 per cent of its value against the dollar in the black market in the past week, according to the sources. The American currency was quoted at 775 dinars in the black market Tuesday while the officially set CBJ rate was 657.060. On Aug. 1, one day before the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait, the difference was 657.060.00.

Contrary to pledge made by the CBJ last week to supply sufficient foreign currency to meet local needs, commercial banks were unable to provide any foreign currency even for travel and study purposes for which foreign currency supply is guaranteed, according to banking sources.

"Usually banks do not keep much foreign exchange in cash," said a senior official commenting on the unavailability of foreign currency. "Banks are under no obligation to sell foreign exchange to their clients except upon availability. Otherwise they could give them cheques or transfer their deposits wherever they wanted as long as they complied with regulations," he told the Jordan Times.

The official said there was no fear of a shortage in Jordanian dinar because banks have surplus liquidity deposits and could cover any amount of withdrawals. Arab Bank officials said that deposits withdrew JD 5 million Thursday, mostly in cash in an apparent bid to protect their savings.

Uncertainty in the region has also shaken the Amman Financial Market where stocks have dropped by as much as 25 to 30 per cent since Aug. 2.

"The market experienced a plummets in stock prices," said Dr. Abdulla Maliki, president of the Association of Jordanian Banks.

"Industry related stocks dropped the most because much of industry is linked to Iraq," he said.

(Continued on page 4)

## Sanction move in U.N. court, officials say

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan, which has repeatedly affirmed its adherence to all international treaties and agreements, including the charter of the United Nations, believes that the ball is in the court of the Security Council resolution calling for sanctions against Iraq for its take-over of Kuwait, according to senior officials.

Confirming that Jordan is indeed studying the impact of the sanctions on the national economy, a senior Foreign Ministry official said that "the Security Council has not even formed a committee to deal with the issue of sanctions, and Jordan does not feel compelled to take the initiative and approach the U.N."

Foreign Ministry legal experts are discussing means to implement the resolution and "maintain Jordan's proven record of strict adherence and respect for the U.N. charter as His Majesty King Hussein said last week," said another official, speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

"Whatever we do, it will remain within the framework of the United Nations."

Jordan, whose Red Sea port of Aqaba represents a lifeline for Iraq in the face of a sweeping international embargo and a naval blockade that is falling into place, will suffer enormously if it were to apply the sanctions, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Wednesday. He said the King could not move immediately to enforce sanctions. "Clearly, in terms of implementation, we just don't turn off a switch in our dealings with Iraq and Kuwait," he said.

"Jordan respects the U.N. mandate...but (sanctions) would bring our economy to a standstill."

Many analysts believe that Jordan is hoping for a peaceful resolution

to the Gulf crisis soon and hence it may never actually have to implement the U.N. sanctions.

According to legal experts familiar with the workings of the United Nations, there could be a way out for Jordan if the Gulf crisis remains unresolved for long. "The Kingdom can maintain its record of respect for the United Nations charter calling for sanctions but need not undermine its own economic backbone if it uses a loophole represented in a precedent set with U.N. sanctions on South Africa in 1977," said an expert speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

The precedent, according to the expert, was set by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) when it made a collective approach to the Security Council that "the frontline states whose economies are deeply entwined with that of South Africa were exempted from the sanctions call."

Subsequently, there was a tacit understanding that none of the frontline states will be punished for dealing with South Africa, although no legal records were released to that effect," said the expert. "It is possible that the U.N. Security Council might prefer a similar approach made by the Arab League on behalf of Jordan," he added, raising another puzzle whether Amman would resort to help from a forum whose 12 members have condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and some of whom were implicitly accused by the King of hampering his efforts for a peaceful solution to an Arab umbrella.

In an interview with Australian television, the Crown Prince specifically referred to Article 50 of the U.N. Charter which implicitly protects countries which could suffer economically as a result of implementing U.N. sanctions.

"There is no reason for us to interfere," Arns said Israel Radio. "Israel is not part of the sea embargo declared by the United States. This is being carried out with American ships and shipping sources said.

They said that another freighter called Al Baya had been waiting off Dubai for the last two days.

Reports from London Monday said that Britain has joined the United States in ordering its

## U.S. continues Gulf build-up

Combined agency dispatches

THE UNITED STATES raced to build up its military strength in Saudi Arabia Tuesday and the international community increased economic pressure meant to force Iraq to leave Kuwait.

U.S. President George Bush Monday told Defense Secretary Dick Cheney to return to the Gulf and reportedly telephoned Japanese Prime Minister Toshiko Kaifu. A Japanese Foreign Ministry official said Tuesday that Bush asked for increased Japanese financial aid to Middle East countries affected by the crisis.

Arns' remarks were in line with Israel's stated policy not to get directly involved in the Gulf crisis. Washington has been careful not to enlist Israel, its closest ally in the region, for fear that such a move would anger Arab states now backing the West.

But Israel has repeatedly

warned Jordan that it would allow Jordan to allow the Iraqi army to use Jordanian territory.

Its future policy, in spite of Arns' remarks, still appeared undecided. On Monday, Foreign Minister David Levy and other officials "warned" Jordan against violating the embargo.

The problem was settled through intervention by Jordanian authorities and the ship resumed loading and unloading operations three days later.

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## Darawshe offers Iraq peace trip

TEL AVIV (R) — An Arab member of the Israeli parliament who supports Iraq in the Gulf crisis offered on Tuesday to travel to Baghdad on a peace mission.

The offer by Abdul Wahab Darawshe, a veteran Knesset (parliament) deputy, underlined the depth of support for the Jewish state's most feared foe among the 700,000 Arabs in Israel and 1.75 million Palestinians in the occupied territories.

"I requested a meeting with Yitzhak Shamir to hear his position and to see if he wants to send a message to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein," Darawshe, head of the small Arab Democratic Party and its sole Knesset member, told Reuters.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir rejected the proposal as "an exercise in futility."

"I don't think it is realistic. There is no place for such mediation," Avi Pazner said, ruling out a meeting with the prime minister. "Shamir is not available this week."

Darawshe, who broke from the Labour Party nine months before the 1988 parliamentary elections, Saturday became the first Knesset member to publicly express his support for Iraq following its takeover of Kuwait.

"We support the unity between Iraq and Kuwait as a positive step on the road to a comprehensive Arab unity and object to any foreign intervention to the Gulf," Darawshe said Tuesday.

He said he would fly to Iraq immediately if Shamir approved peace talks with Iraq but would scrap the idea if the prime minister rejected the initiative.

Darawshe, one of only six Arabs in the Knesset, made his statements amid overwhelming support for Iraq among Palestinians under Israeli rule.

Iraqi flags and pictures of Saddam appeared Tuesday in Nazareth, and hundreds of Palestinians have staged almost daily demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Troops in the occupied territories, where a Palestinian revolt against Israeli rule has raged for 32 months, have been ordered to quash pro-Iraqi demonstrations there as quickly as possible, the Hebrew-language daily Haaretz reported Tuesday.

Palestinians in the West Bank town of Ramallah said troops who had appeared to be striving to avoid Arab casualties in recent weeks responded fiercely to a march in support of Saddam Monday night.

A resident said soldiers fired tear-gas and rubber and plastic bullets without giving a mandatory warning to disperse.

The army's senior officer in the West Bank, Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, denied any change in policy. "There is no change to the situation in the field... I can't point to anything

unusual in the field," he told Israel Radio.

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens told reporters on Tuesday he was "disappointed" to discover the amount of support for Iraq among Palestinians.

The Progressive Movement, another Arab party with just one Knesset member, has also backed Iraq.

The Arab-dominated Israeli Communist Party and the Islamic Movement, the two main political groups for Israeli Arabs, have criticised Iraq's occupation of Kuwait but condemned the Western military buildup in the Gulf.

Darawshe acknowledged many Israelis were angered by his support for Iraq, but he insisted his proposal to visit Baghdad was purely for peace.

"As Arabs in Israel, we feel we must intervene to help defuse the crisis and achieve peace, if we can," he said.

### Support growing

Palestinians chanting "Death to America" burned American and Israeli flags Tuesday in one of the several rallies in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in support of Saddam Hussein.

In a response to growing anti-American sentiments among Palestinians, the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv urged Americans working in the occupied Gaza Strip to be cautious, embassy officials said.

Sources in Gaza said Americans were told not to enter trouble spots such as Palestinian refugee camps where many pro-Saddam rallies have taken place in recent days.

"There is something building up against the Americans. We are certainly on the watch. We are aware that the first target would be Americans," said Alexandra Seiffert, spokeswoman for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Gaza which employs three Americans.

She said she did not know if American staffers were pulled off their duties in the refugee camps. UNRWA assists Palestinian refugees, mainly providing education and medical care.

U.S. embassy spokesman Richard Langford said he was not aware of warnings being issued to Americans in the West Bank. He said he did not know how many Americans were working in the occupied territories.

Palestinians are celebrating Saddam as a national saviour who can win back the West Bank and Gaza Strip and teach a lesson to the Americans who are perceived as one-sidedly pro-Israel.

The support reached near-frenzy after Saddam earlier this week linked his pullout from Kuwait to an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

The strongest expressions of anti-American sentiment were reported in the West Bank city of Nablus on Tuesday.

### Raymond and Robert Atcheson

announce with deep regret

the demise of

### Samaan Michael Layous

on 13 August, 1990.

He is survived by his wife Margaret Samaan Layous and his four children Raymonde Layous Atcheson, Michael, Sameer and Salim Layous.

The funeral will be held at the Christian Cemetery in Amman Thursday 16 August, 1990 at 3:30 p.m.

Condolences will be held at the residence of Mr. Robert Atcheson between 5:00 and 9:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 16, 17 and 18 August in the Safeway Shmeisani area, near the Al Mansour Mosque and the Al Walid Supermarket.

## Gulf sea confrontation could come in 2 days

WASHINGTON (R) — With American ships and troops pouring into the Gulf region, U.S. television reported that the first confrontation of U.S. naval forces with Iraq could come in the next two days.

Warships accompanying the aircraft carrier Eisenhower in the Red Sea could in the next two days stop and board an Iraqi freighter headed for Aqaba via the Suez Canal, NBC news reported late Monday. The freighter is loaded with small arms and ammunition bought in Poland, NBC reported.

U.S. Defence Department spokesman Peter Williams confirmed U.S. forces were monitoring Iraqi ship movements in the region, but would not say which ships were targets of the surveillance. The White House has said U.S. forces will do whatever is necessary to enforce U.N.-approved economic sanctions against Iraq because of its Aug. 2

"I think our position grows stronger with each day that goes by," Major General Don Kaufman, acting chief of staff for U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia, told reporters Monday.

Defence Secretary Dick Cheney will fly to Saudi Arabia Friday to visit U.S. troops and stress American readiness to "protect" the Saudis and other Gulf states, the Pentagon said.

U.S. troops are now arriving in Saudi Arabia at a lively pace, with transport planes landing about every 10 minutes in an airfield designed to shore up Saudi defences.

The Pentagon is drawing up plans for U.S. warships in the northern Arabian Sea, Gulf and

take-over of Kuwait.

U.S. forces are pouring into Saudi Arabia and the Gulf region under "Operation Desert Shield" to bolster U.S. efforts to "defend" Saudi Arabia and clamp an economic hold on Iraq.

"We assess the impact of the embargo as excellent," Fitzwater said. President George Bush planned to interrupt his three-week holiday in Kennebunkport, Maine Tuesday night for a day of briefings on Wednesday in Washington.

The aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy and its 80 warplanes could leave Norfolk, Virginia, for the Gulf this week, joining an

armada of more than 40 warships in or en route to the region, including three other carriers, officials said.

Four carriers would give a strike force of more than 300 fighters and bombers.

Defence officials said at least 5,000 U.S. troops were already in Saudi Arabia and that figure would swell to at least 50,000 in the coming weeks. The figure could go even higher in the months ahead, they added.

Joining the ground forces in Saudi Arabia were more than 100 air force F-15 jets fighters and F-16 attack aircraft.

Troops began arriving in Saudi Arabia last week after Bush agreed to a Saudi request.

Uncertainty surrounded the thousands of West Europeans and Americans detained in Iraq. Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations, Abdul Amir Al Ahari, said Iraq would let all foreigners leave in a few days or weeks.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### 'Trapped Westerners having good time'

PARIS (R) — Iraq's ambassador to France, Abdul Razzak Al Hashimi said Monday Westerners unable to leave his country were having a good time and a free holiday. "They are not held, believe me, they are enjoying the sun, and they are in the best hotels in Baghdad and they are having a very good time; a free paid vacation, that's what they are doing," he told a news conference. Hashimi, twice summoned to the French Foreign Ministry in recent days about the inability of the 530 French nationals in Iraq and Kuwait to leave, was answering questions about President Francois Mitterrand's statement last week that French under Iraqi control were effectively prisoners.

### Norway's envoy to Iraq suffers attack

OSLO (R) — Norway's ambassador to Iraq has suffered a heart attack and Oslo has asked the Iraqi authorities for permission to send a plane to fly him home, the national news agency NTB reported. Tuesday, it was not known whether 27 Norwegians trapped in Iraq would be allowed to leave on the same plane, if it is allowed in. Doctors, however, said Harald Lone, 61, would need to stay in hospital for about a week before he would be well enough to leave. The sick ambassador will probably be replaced Friday.

### Egyptian tourism unaffected by crisis

CAIRO (R) — An Egyptian official said Tuesday tourism was so far unaffected by the Gulf crisis. "There have not been any signs that tourism in Egypt has been affected in the current situation in the Middle East and the Gulf crisis," Ramzi Zaghlama, head of the state-run Egyptian Chamber of Tourism and Travel Agencies, told Reuters. He said the crisis, just as the summer season for Arab tourists was winding down, had not resulted in cancellations for the winter season favoured by Western tourists. But he predicted that if tension continued tourism could fall 10 per cent this winter and even more the following summer.

### U.S. women driving in Saudi Arabia

NICOSIA (R) — American women with the U.S. military contingent in Saudi Arabia are driving vehicles despite a ban on female drivers in the kingdom. Gulf-based diplomats said Tuesday. The diplomats said the government had relaxed its rules to allow dozens of U.S. air force and army women to drive military transports on desert highways in the Eastern province. Women in Saudi Arabia are always veiled in public and seldom go anywhere unless accompanied by a male relative. As a concession to the Saudis, women staff officers would not work with their Saudi male counterparts, the diplomats said.

### Pro-Iraqi rally fails to materialise

CAIRO (R) — Hundreds of Egyptian security men were deployed in central Cairo Tuesday but a scheduled pro-Iraqi demonstration failed to materialise. "Wake up Egyptians... with whom should we side: Iraq or America?" said a statement by the "Wafid Vanguard" group urging Egyptians to protest at Western intervention in the Gulf. Scores of state security officers and hundreds of plain clothes policemen and riot troops carrying sticks, shields and electric batons were deployed in a busy square in the heart of Cairo. But the demonstrators did not come.

### Head of shrines backs King Fahd

NICOSIA (R) — The head of Islam's two holiest shrines, said by Iraq to be under foreign occupation, Tuesday supported King Fahd of Saudi Arabia for inviting foreign forces to defend the kingdom. "We back all your decisions to safeguard the security of the country and its citizens against evil and evil-doers," Sheikh Mohammad Ben Abdullah Al Sabeel, president of the Grand Mosque in Mecca and the Prophet Mohammad Mosque in Medina said in a letter to Fahd.

### Kuwait sent \$1b to West in early '90

BASLE (R) — Kuwaitis placed more than \$1 billion with major Western banks in the first quarter of 1990, boosting the emirate's wealth on deposit in the West to more than \$17 billion, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said Wednesday. Commercial banks in major industrialised democracies and offshore financial centres, told the BIS, the central bankers' bank, the Kuwait deposits rose by \$1.32 billion in the first three months of this year to stand at \$17.59 billion at the end of March.

### Red Cross renews appeal in Kuwait crisis

GENEVA (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) indirectly appealed to Iraq Tuesday to allow the organisation to carry on its work despite the Gulf crisis. "For more than 10 days the ICRC has been preoccupied with the Gulf crisis and its humanitarian consequences," ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga told a news conference. "It launches a pressing appeal that the dialogue the ICRC has begun with all the parties would intensify and that the ICRC's efforts of Aug. 2 would thus bear fruit so it can carry out its humanitarian mission," he said.

### Sri Lanka sells tea to Iraq

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka continued to sell tea to Iraq for the second successive week despite U.N. trade sanctions against that country, officials and brokers said. Plantation Ministry Secretary R.S. Jayaratne said the government decided to allow tea to be sold to Iraq as it was a food commodity. Brokers said that Iraq bought less tea Tuesday than the average 500,000 kg bought at previous auctions. "It could be because of the shipping blockade," one broker said.

## Freed Swiss hostage fit, Belgians could be freed

DAMASCUS (R) — Swiss relief worker Elie Erriquez, enjoying his first day of freedom after 10 months as a hostage in Lebanon, was in good physical and mental shape and eager to return home Tuesday, Swiss diplomats said.

The only words uttered by the 24-year-old Red Cross worker, appearing pale but cheerful, as he walked out of the Foreign Ministry just after midnight with the Swiss ambassador and Red Cross chief in Damascus.

Erriquez was handed over to Syrian security men in west Beirut late or "Monday" by a group calling itself the Palestinian Revolutionary Faction (PRF).

The same previously unknown group freed his Swiss colleague Emanuel Christen, who was kidnapped with Erriquez last Oct. 6 in the Lebanese port city of Sidon where they fitted twin victims with artificial limbs, last Wednesday.

Erriquez was to be flown to

embassy compound in Damascus after the staff doctor pronounced him "physically and mentally okay" and able to travel.

"I am very, very happy," were the only words uttered by the 24-year-old Red Cross worker, appearing pale but cheerful, as he walked out of the Foreign Ministry just after midnight with the Swiss ambassador and Red Cross chief in Damascus.

Erriquez was handed over to Syrian security men in west Beirut late or "Monday" by a group calling itself the Palestinian Revolutionary Faction (PRF).

The same previously unknown group freed his Swiss colleague Emanuel Christen, who was kidnapped with Erriquez last Oct. 6 in the Lebanese port city of Sidon where they fitted twin victims with artificial limbs, last Wednesday.

Erriquez was to be flown to

Geneva Tuesday on board a plane chartered by the International Committee of the Red Cross, which thanked the leaders of Syria, Libya and Algeria as well as Iranian, PLO and Lebanese officials for securing his release.

Christen would fly to Damascus to travel back with his co-worker, the ICRC said.

Security sources in Beirut said the Swiss men were abducted by gunmen of the Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) led by Abu Nidal. The FRC denies the link.

The PRF said it freed its Swiss captives after receiving guarantees its demands would be met and in response to efforts by Syria, Libya and Algeria. It gave no details of its demands.

Foreign Minister Rene Felber

said in Bern that Switzerland made no concessions to win the release of the hostages and that no government had asked for anything in exchange for its help.

The four Belgian hostages — Emmanuel Houdekis, his wife Godelieve Ketis and their teenage children Valerie and Laurent — would be released Wednesday, the conservative Beirut newspaper Al Liwa quoted diplomatic sources as saying.

But the FRC spokesman in Lebanon, Walid Khaled, said he had no information that the Houdekis would be freed.

Diplomatic sources have told Reuters that Belgium had agreed to release FRC guerrilla Nasser Said, jailed 10 years ago for the attack at an Antwerp bus stop in which one was killed, in an agreement with the FRC and Libya.

### Foreigners safe

ATHENS (R) — An Iraqi envoy said Tuesday that all foreigners trapped in Iraq and Kuwait were safe and could return home after U.S. threats against Baghdad ceased. "All foreigners in Iraq and Kuwait are safe," Abdul Fatal Al Khezraji, Iraq's ambassador to Greece, told a news conference. "At this time we are fully occupied with the threats against us. Once these threats stop we will face the matter of foreigners and if they wish they will be able to leave immediately.

## Sheikh Saad meets with Turkish officials

ANKARA (AP) — The premier of the exiled Kuwaiti government met with Turkish leaders Tuesday to discuss ways to end Iraq's takeover of his country.

Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah said in an arrival statement that he would also thank Turkish officials for their firm stand against the Iraqi takeover.

Turkey, complying with a United Nations embargo, closed down twin pipelines last week that carried Iraqi crude through Turkey. The move shut the route for more than half of Iraq's oil exports.

Turkey also has banned transit trade and imports from Iraq and has restricted Turkish exports to Iraq, allowing only emergency food and medical supplies.

U.S. government officials have assured Turkey that the emir of Kuwait would pay compensation to Turkey for economic losses

from the embargo. These are estimated at about \$3 billion.

The compensation was likely to be discussed in the Kuwait premier's talks with Turkish Premier Turgut Ozal, officials said.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's Ambassador Abdul Azziz Hodja told reporters Tuesday they were ready to meet Turkey's oil needs at advantageous prices. He did not elaborate.

Abdul said Turkey was urging all sides to seek a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.

Turkey has put its air force and military units in the south in a state of readiness for defensive purposes. Iraq denied Monday that it had any intention of attacking Turkey, its northern neighbour with a powerful army of its own and Western protection as a member of NATO.

The Turkish government,

however, obtained permission from parliament Sunday to declare a state of war and mobilise troops in the event of an attack.

The parliament withheld permission to send troops abroad or allow foreign troops on Turkish soil unless the country is attacked.



## Jordan Times

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## Gulf war II and media images

NOT since 1980, the year in which the Gulf war broke out, did so many journalists show up in town at the same time. Most Jordanians welcome and value their presence amongst us, especially at this difficult and sensitive time. Particularly welcoming of this elite international group, though, are fellow Jordanian hacks, to use the popular term for journalists in America and Britain.

Hacks, the word, means many things. But in its relationship to journalists it has only a small range of meanings. From "a horse let out for common hire" to "a horse worse worn out in service" to "one who forfeits individual freedom of action or professional integrity in exchange for wages or other assured reward; esp: a writer who works mainly for hire."

Where we and they, our Arab and international colleagues, fit in those definitions, and whether they include all print and other media people (men and women), we do not know. What we do know is that we all are in the same boat, and everybody is trying to put in some hard work and effort to inform the world's public opinion.

Some may do it better than the others. But we all have our different ways in looking at the news and the analysis and in writing them to our listeners, viewers and readers.

Differences in presenting the news diminish or grow when the reports and tapes reach their final destinations. It then becomes a decision for the editors back home to fit their copies in with the overall picture that any given country or society may have formulated of the particular situation.

Reporters everywhere often complain that their pieces end up to be quite different from what was originally intended. Among the pool of journalists who have been reporting out of Amman, such complaints have not been unheard of, especially from American and some other European reporters.

Desk editors in New York and Washington and London may be too busy interpreting and accommodating their governments' and public opinions to make a good use of their reporters' work on their front pages. Or it is also common for those editors to think that the world begins and ends with the political situation in their countries, and to play their media images accordingly.

Needless to say that the strong media presence in Jordan has had a positive impact on necessary attempts to give the West and the rest of the world the other side of the story. But much more needs to be done in order to explain to them that the problem in the Gulf is just a pocket-book crisis. The whole international community has to understand that it is infinitely easier and safer to pay \$1.50 for a gallon of petrol than to lose oil and endanger world peace and security altogether.

It is imperative to understand that Gulf war II (the first lasted eight years and claimed the lives of over a million human beings) would be a real catastrophe.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A rejection of Saddam Hussein's initiative to end the Gulf Crisis on the part of the United States and Israel was expected under the present circumstances and as the war drums in the West are being beaten, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday. Both are declared enemies of the Arab Nation and both would do anything in their power to keep the Arabs weak and divided, the paper said. But what about a European nation like France which has maintained strong ties with the Arab World, and what about the European Community of nations which have always supported right and justice? Asks the paper. We want to see the Europeans trying to solve the problem and not to further complicate matters, and we would like China and the Soviet Union to help in this endeavour, the paper hoped. It said that Moscow is regrettably under the spell of Washington, and is restricted in its actions, but still it can take a stand to deter others from complicating the situation, and can help impose international legitimacy at all times. Saddam Hussein's initiative, added the paper, is viewed by the peace-loving people as a means of restoring stability and peace throughout the Middle East region. This initiative is also a way of harnessing the U.S.-Zionist-imperialist drive to impose hegemony on the Arabs and to bring destruction to their land, the paper noted. It said that for their part, the Arab masses are determined to sacrifice their souls in defence of their soil and in kicking out of the invaders from their territory.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily cautions readers to be careful about spending and urges them to rationalise their consumption under the present circumstances and in view of the looming dangers. Bader Abdul Haq says that no one wants to see invaders coming into Arab land imposing their will on us, and therefore, we are to make ready for all eventualities and for all events by starting to economise and to avoid hoarding of food supplies. One must be ready to confront the enemy by living within his own means and accepting simple life, and one should give up excessive spending and make ready to deal with more difficult times ahead of us, the writer adds. He criticises those citizens who rush to the shops and stores trying to buy as much food supplies as possible, and in quantities far exceeding their needs for weeks to come. He says that difficult times are a trial period for the people who should be reasonable in their behaviour, in their life style and in dealing with circumstances. To show love for one's country requires sacrifice and reason, and also sensible reaction to the events, says the writer, because he adds all of us are threatened and all of us need to cooperate to fend off the danger.

By deciding to intercept all Iraqi vessels and those carrying supplies to Iraq on the open seas, Washington has thus involved itself in very dangerous position and taken the Gulf region into an explosive stage, said Al Dustour Arabic daily Tuesday. The result of such rash action, said the paper, can only bring about more dangers and further risks not only to the Gulf area but to those involved in the current crisis and foreign powers.

## Economic Forum

### Arabs need to sell oil more than West's need to buy it

By Dr. Abdalla Mafid

Any neutral, fair and objective observer who went through some of the leading articles and commentaries of American and other Western media during the last two weeks can easily come to the conclusion that Mr. Bush has over-reacted to the take-over of Kuwait by Iraq. Western media subjected Mr. Bush to a dreadful amount of instigation which no normal person can tolerate without dancing to the cries of war made by the media. Readers who may dispute or doubt that must read, for example, the article titled "U.S. can and must stop Saddam" written by Ms. Karen E. House in the Wall Street Journal on Aug. 6, 1990 (p. 6). In this extraordinarily fiery article, Ms. House (the vice president, international, of Dow Jones & Co., publisher of the Wall Street Journal) called for the blood of President Saddam even if he pulls the Iraqi forces out of Kuwait! Obviously, the very highly charged atmosphere which accompanied the Kuwait

crisis was an opportunity taken by some very bad-intentioned journalists and columnists to promote certain non-economic ends and objectives under an economic guise. The main theme they wickedly and immorally exploited was that Saddam is threatening the free flow of oil at tolerable prices, which is a vital interest to the West, or so goes the argument of the instigation mongers. This is truly rubbish.

To all Arab oil producing countries, including Iraq, oil is a staple export commodity that must be exported. If Iraq, or any other oil producing Arab country, does not export its oil, its economy will be crippled. The fact that Bush administration chose to force a ban on oil imports from Iraq and Kuwait proves this viewpoint beyond doubt.

If the free flow of oil is a vital interest to the West, it is more so to Arab countries, including Iraq. Arabs produce oil for the sole purpose of selling it because otherwise

they hurt themselves more and before all other parties. And they must sell it to the world. But it does not really matter to whom they sell it. Even if they sell oil to China, Taiwan, South Africa, etc., they end up selling it to the West from a technical and practical point of view.

Economic analysts all over the world know very well that the world oil market is a closed market and that it is almost a perfect one or very close to that. This implies first, that oil prices throughout this market are either identical or very close to each other and, second, any quantities of oil delivered to any part of this market are automatically delivered to all parts of it. Oil sold by, say, Arabs to, say, a country in the East, say Korea, frees a corresponding quantity to be made available for another buyer, say, U.S.A. or Canada. Arabs, therefore, sell their oil to the West under all circumstances; they can do nothing else with it. Consequent-

ly, it must be said that the continued, free and smooth flow of Arab oil to the West is a vital Arab interest. One-sided arguments like the one produced by commentators as Ms. House are not only rubbish but must be camouflage for other, mostly political, dubious and devious aims.

The other side of the misleading argument that the price of oil has to be tolerable is also senseless and does not stand serious reasoning. The price of oil must be either low (\$10-14 for example), fair (\$20-24) or very high (\$50). The low price is not sustainable because oil importers tend to overcome oil at these low prices. Demand is thus boosted and the price is bid up. Alternatively, producers cut production, the supply is depressed, the price edges up, and tends to move to the fair level, that is the level justified by economic criteria. The market itself will not tolerate an unfair price.

For opposite reasons, a high price (\$50) is not sustainable as

well. Producers tend to over-produce and/or consumers cut their demand and, as experience shows, energy-saving policies are applied while development of alternative energy sources marches on. Of course, this is not theoretical formulation but it is, as you must know, the lesson of the eighties.

This is why oil producers dread high oil prices as importers do and have opposed them enthusiastically as, or even more than them. In either case, low or high, oil prices tend to move towards the fair, that is tolerable, level and stay there or fluctuate around it in line with the fluctuations in demand and supply. Thus all the verbal gimmicks relating to the tolerable and free flow of oil at tolerable prices. Wars only create new bases of contention that lead again and again to oil disruption or threaten the free flow of oil at tolerable prices. Why does the West fail to understand or insist to ignore this simple point? Ask the media, like the Observer of London, and certain Western authors, like K.E. House.

The continued and smooth free flow of Arab oil to the West is a vital Arab interest, not less than being a vital interest to the West. The need

to nuclear so-called deterrent will not note the difference, it is clear and quite evident that the main crux is our oil, do not be fooled by the company's pledge to defend any Arab regime. The camp is there to protect its interests and in doing so each and every one of us isispensable.

How do we tackle this volatile situation? I see two predominant solutions. The first is very easy and fast, we should discard our identities and apply for green cards thus becoming more brilliant stars on the flag. The other is extremely difficult and could cost us our useless lives, to stand tall with each other strong and united and take what is rightfully ours.!

## Camping

By Ali Malhas

The writer, a Jordanian businessman based in Amman contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

MANY generations in our perturbed region, have been through various types of complex and rather inexplicable versions of continuous turmoil. The company has always ensured that if one dispute is resolved, an immediate contingency plan is installed to bring the situation to square one of the original problem.

Consequently, we became some what perplexed experts in politics, geo-politics, buffer zones, stalemates, conflicting interests, and so on and so forth. Amidst the confusion, one eminent fact stood conspicuous, which we, as the rest of the world, respected and accepted, "bi-camp world control". We were well aware that we had to provide our allegiance to either, in order to be.

Both camps were in dire need of our region's ground riches to sustain their economies, yet they knew in essence, that neither one could solely control this precious energy.

As a result our area's geography had to undergo a bismar-

kian network that would allow both camps spheres of influence and would sustain a delicate and an even flow of oil to both, the Eastern satellites and the Western industries. Such triangles of powers were Israel, Turkey and Iran, on one hand, and Egypt, Syria and Iraq on the other. Meanwhile, and to safeguard against a Syrian Iraqi unity that could pause as a serious threat, the two countries were kept apart despite their common grounds, both Arabs and belonging to the same camp?

Suddenly, Gorbachev's perestroika and glasnost, emerged and disrupted some seventy years of communist criteria thus inducing a rapid

deterioration of the East camp, and an ultimate company's success and control. Jubilations reverberated all over the globe and the eagle soared high. One by one, international conflicts were being resolved, and a noticeable amount of restructuring is taking place. As one camp prevailed and the other vanished, all the existing geopolitical patterns had to be amended and double agents to be rendered redundant? The necessity of a policeman in our region is no longer valid and the company once again erroneously disregarded our region's demand for a just and honourable peace, and undermines the audible pan Arab nationalistic calls. Palesti-

ne and Lebanon, mere trivialities and can wait? What a sole mistake!

As a result of this arrogant policy, now we live in a serious crisis, one which threatens the company's oil. This triggers an immediate and an overwhelming political manipulation scheme and a stunning military build-up. Finally the company had to play the policeman role and is in direct control of the region.

Uncle Sam, once again is leading his soldiers astray defending the Arab's honour? G. I. Joe is here to stay and will never go.

In conclusion, my fellow Arab brethren and irrespective of your colour or religion, for

we are sure that Jordan will respect for commitment to the U.N. charter and impose the sanctions," said senior American official. "We do understand Jordan's position and we are also sure that if properly presented to the U.N. body there would be many willing ears to listen.

Israel said Tuesday it was not part of the international embargo on Iraq and that while it would like Jordan to join the siege against Iraq, it will not launch any military moves against the Kingdom.

But few appeared to take the Israeli "assurance" seriously. The King himself has said that Israel may not be involved in the Gulf crisis in the initial stages because it may alienate the Arab and Islamic states supporting the sanctions move but the Jewish state may come in at a later stage.

## 'Iraq sanction move in United Nations court'

(Continued from page 1)

holds the central key, perhaps the only one, to any reasonable success in the international sanctions against Iraq since Baghdad cannot hope to use the Gulf as a channel for exports and imports in the face of the naval blockade which is soon becoming a reality. Turkey has closed its borders for transit of goods to Iraq and the Syrian-Iraqi border remains closed since 1982. That leaves Jordan's Aqaba as the only route left open for Iraq, which used the Red Sea port extensively during the eight years of war with Iran.

Enforcing the sanction resolution to the letter against Iraq, a major trade partner of Jordan, could not only undermine the sanctions since its tea exports to Iraq represents one of the major foreign exchange revenues for the Kingdom. In addition, port activities and transport would suffer as much loss as 70 per cent if Jordan applied the

sanctions, economists said. Iraq used Aqaba for part of its oil exports, mainly to Brazil, during the eight year war, but, according to analysts, indications from Baghdad point to a decision by Iraq that it could manage without any oil exports for some time.

Jordan bought Iraqi products worth \$214.7 million in 1989, almost 90 per cent of it in oil, according to statistics. In theory, Jordan, if it falls in line with the U.N. sanctions and bans imports from Iraq, there should not be a real problem, but the clinch is that the Kingdom does not pay in cash for the imported Iraqi oil; Baghdad is repaying its debts, incurred during the war years.

When Iran and Iraq went into a ceasefire in August 1988, the Iraqi debts to Jordan stood at \$800 million in government-to-

government dealings and about \$350 million to the private sector. Since then, most of the private sector debt has been paid off, and now Iraq owes about \$320 million in official debts to Jordan, and is paying in monthly consignments worth about \$30 million to \$35 million in oil.

In essence, switching from Iraq to another oil source will mean that the Kingdom will have to produce hard currency worth \$30 million to \$35 million every month," noted a senior Finance Ministry official.

U.S. stand

What is left unaided by the United States, which is championing the push for anti-Iraq international sanctions, is how Washington would react to countries which refuse to tow its line.

However, in the case of Jordan,

## Civil defence seeks more role

(Continued from page 3)

period of three years." However, Ghof said that his department was currently evaluating a locally-manufactured mask that would be afforded by people. He did not wish to elaborate. He added that masks on their own were not enough, since some gases affect human skin.

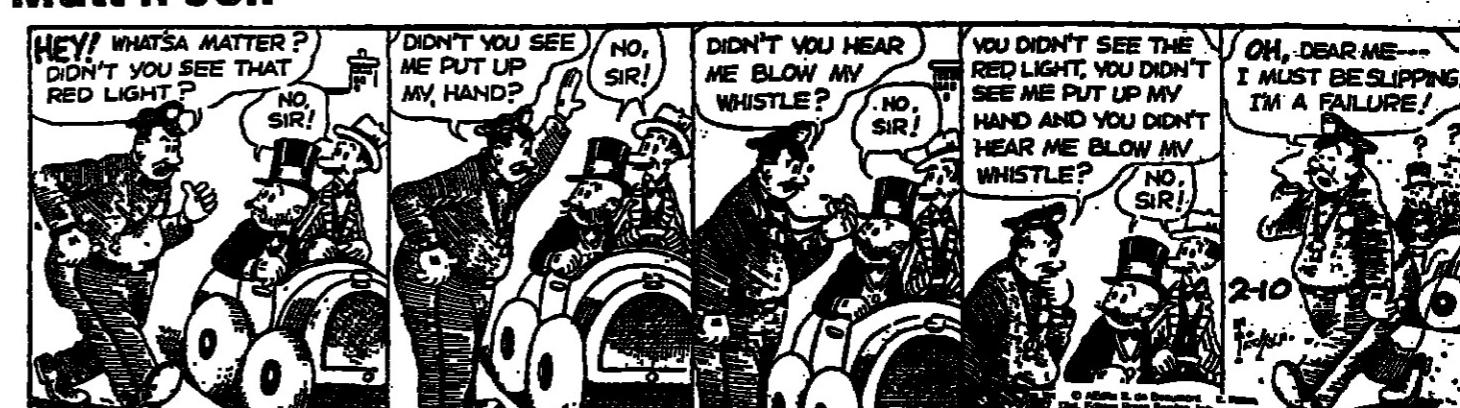
Former CDD chief Khalid Tarawneh confirmed masks were easy to make and could be manufactured locally and at a low cost. He said he had in the past asked for 250,000 masks but that his request was not met apparently for financial reasons.

Amin said that for civil defence purposes the governorate of Amman was divided into 20 districts and that each district would have rescue and fire fighting units headed by the chiefs of local municipal councils.

He said his department would soon start a media campaign to inform people of the physical dangers inherent in chemical warfare, but said that his department was not fully prepared to provide people with gas masks against chemical weapons.

Gen. Ghof said: "There is no country that provides its people with masks for every citizen. Besides masks are only useful for the

## Mutt'n'Jeff



## Andy Capp



border dispute with Iran, Tehran Television reported.

The broadcast quoted Foreign Ministry spokesman Morteza Sarabi as saying that "linking the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iran to other international issues corresponds neither to international norms nor to Iraq's alleged commitment to United Nations Resolution 598."

Iran meanwhile rejected Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's proposal to link a settlement of the Gulf crisis with resolution of a

broad-based agreement on the border dispute between the two countries.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said that the two countries had agreed to settle the dispute through negotiations.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said that the two countries had agreed to settle the dispute through negotiations.

# Middle East News

## Big powers disown Gulf blockade

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)

Several members of the U.N. Security Council, including some U.S. allies, have distanced themselves from Washington's naval actions in the Gulf, saying their own ships were there to monitor U.N. sanctions and not to enforce them through a blockade, council sources said.

The council, which last week passed stringent economic sanctions against Iraq, met for closed-door consultations on Monday. It was not expected to take any immediate action on the Gulf crisis, but one source said, "I think (the U.S.) got the message."

In answer to questions, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said a blockade could not be considered a U.N. action but he said countries had the right to invoke U.N. charter provisions on "self-defence."

But he did not comment on when actions relating to "self-defence" impinge on action that necessitate U.N. authorisation under international law.

Several council members were reported to have been disturbed by U.S. assertions that Washington was legally entitled to intercept Iraqi ships in order to enforce the stringent sanctions passed by

the council.

They urged a council committee, which includes all members of the 15-nation body, to discuss compliance with sanctions by the end of the week.

Canada, France and Soviet Union were reported to have said they were monitoring the Gulf but at this time not taking any unilateral action, the sources said. Malaysia said sanctions first should have a chance to take hold and Cuba again castigated the United States for its actions, the sources added.

"A lot of us feel there is no jurisdictional base in the U.N. resolution on sanctions beyond asking a ship the nature of its cargo and are warning against doing anything hasty," another council source said.

The United States and Britain have ordered warships in the Gulf to intercept and board any vessel trying to break the U.N.-sponsored sanctions against Iraq for its take-over of Kuwait Aug. 2.

Other nations such as France have sent warships or enhanced their presence in the Gulf.

The Bush administration has been reluctant to call the blocking of Iraqi commerce on high seas a blockade, which is tantamount to declaring a state of war.

Echoing Secretary of State

James Baker, the United States justified the naval operation under Kuwait's formal request for a U.N. economic embargo on Iraq and Article 51 of the U.N. Charter, which accords nations the right to defend themselves as well as the right to request assistance from others.

Kuwait formally sent a letter, dated Aug. 12, to Romanian Ambassador Arel Dragos Munteanu, this month's council president, saying it was exercising its rights under Article 51 and had requested some nations to take such military or other steps as are necessary to ensure the effective and prompt implementation of Security Council Resolution 661 (on sanctions).

India may seek protection from the Security Council for the staggering blow to its economy from the embargo on Iraq, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

In its report, The Hindu, a conservative daily, cited an article of the U.N. Charter providing "mutual assistance in carrying out the measures" adopted by the council.

Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral, meanwhile, left for Moscow Tuesday where he will meet his Soviet and West German counterparts, and later will fly to the United States, apparently to

discuss India's oil import problem.

Petroleum Minister M.S. Gurupadaswamy has said India must find alternative energy sources. Kuwait and Iraq supplied 40 per cent of India's oil imports.

India buys about \$4 billion of petroleum a year. The oil crisis comes at a time when its foreign currency reserves have fallen to what international experts described as a dangerously low level, just enough to cover one month's imports.

India's reaction to Iraq's takeover of Kuwait has been muted.

The Indian embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, said about 320 Indians who had escaped across the border were being flown home Tuesday, the Hindustan Times reported.

The Gulf problem has created a separate economic crisis in the west coast of Kerala, where the large Muslim community has supplied most of the Indian expatriates working in the Middle East.

The Press Trust of India reported that remittances have dried up from the Gulf, depriving Kerala of a major source of income. It said the Keralites report remittances of about \$180 million a year, but more likely goes unreported.

American officials acknowledge privately that they fear the use of the word would only make the situation worse.

## Gulf crisis produces war of words not spoken

By Laurence McQuillan  
Reuter

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine —

For U.S. President George Bush and his key aides, the confrontation with Iraq in the Gulf has produced a war of words not spoken.

While Bush is willing to heap personal attacks on Iraqi President Saddam Hussein — accusing him of brutality and of lying — the words "blockade" and "hostage" do not pass his lips in discussing the crisis.

If their status remains murky, their chances of eventually gaining freedom improves, U.S. officials believe.

When Secretary of State James Baker was asked about hostages Sunday, he defended the administration's refusal to utter "hostage."

"The Iraq government has not said they can leave if you will do thus and so," he said on the ABC programme "This Week with David Brinkley."

"So that's why we do not call them hostages," he said. A day earlier, he told reporters he did not want to use a word like that."

The word "blockade" car-

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1990 5

ries complex implications, as well. Under international law, a blockade is an act of war.

When reporters toss questions at President Bush about the U.S.-led efforts to block Iraqi oil from passing through the Straits of Hormuz, he resorts to legalities as quickly as possible.

"We were determined to fulfil the obligations that we have under Chapter VII of the United Nations," Bush said on Sunday after emerging from a church service.

Under the economic sanctions approved by the U.N. General Assembly, member nations are authorised to enforce the embargo on trade with Iraq and Kuwait, which it occupied Aug. 2.

"Let's not use the word 'blockade,'" Baker said in a response to a question. "Let's simply say that we now have the ability, the legal basis, for interdicting those kinds of shipments."

He said "the legitimate government of Kuwait" had requested help — a move that would activate another section of the U.N. charter to justify ways of enforcing the embargo.

## Ships wait outside Aqaba

(Continued from page 1)

definite indication whether the vessels riding on anchor outside Jordan's territorial waters were holding back because of the international sanctions on Iraq or awaiting payment guarantees. "Most likely, payment seems to be the answer since it has been nine days since the U.N. voted the sanctions and there was enough time for any vessel to divert its route away from Aqaba if the idea was not to offload the cargo," said an official.

Egyptian authorities meanwhile discounted reports that they were blocking the passage through Suez Canal of ships destined for Aqaba if it was found that they were carrying cargo bound for Iraq. An official statement issued in Cairo, which has joined the American-led sanctions against Baghdad, said Egypt re-

## 'Blockade' moves into place

(Continued from page 1) from a channel in the Shah Alum Shoals in the central Gulf since the Iraqi vessel was seen there Monday. Iran mined shipping channels during its eight-year war with Iraq.

The London-based Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit confirmed that the Middle East navigation aids service had issued a navigation warning Monday "after the U.S. navy observed an Iraqi freighter engaging in proximity of three major population centers along the route — Suez, Alexandria and Ismailia. However, Cairo has bent the rules to help the United States."

Some sources reported "unusual" Egyptian naval activity on the mouth of the Gulf of Aqaba, and it was not immediately known whether it was related to a possible blockade of the Gulf in a move to prevent Iraqi exports and imports.

## Jordanians well and safe

(Continued from page 1)

The source, who works on an oil rig, 140 kilometers from Kuwait, towards the Iraqi border, added: "The ones willing to condemn the Iraqi action were the rich who stand to lose, or have their money retained. We, the common people, wish well for all Arabs."

Asked whether there was any resistance from the Kuwaiti side, Abu Zahr said that "there was little resistance at the beginning, then things calmed down." Other sources contacted by the Jordan Times said that there was no resistance at all. However, one Jordanian who had returned Tuesday, said that there was resistance by youth who had got hold of arms and were trying to fight. "They are

in populated areas and the Iraqis do not want to jeopardise civilians' lives, so they are left alone."

According to other sources, curfew is rarely imposed, at night. The border points at Um Al Aish, Rawdaten and Al Jabra (on the Kuwaiti-Iraqi border) are open. They added that there were no attempts to stop people from crossing.

"This will make checking ships easier," one executive said.

The U.S. has nine warships inside the Gulf while Britain has three. Nine American warships, including an aircraft carrier, are outside the waterway and another six plus the Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"There has been no firm word as yet about the nature of the command that will direct the various units of the multinational force in which the Americans are the giant contributors.

## U.S. continues Gulf build-up

(Continued from page 1)

There was no immediate confirmation of the report in Damascus where officials have been reluctant to discuss the subject of Syrian participation in the Saudi-led force.

Twelve of 20 Arab League members voted at the Cairo-hosted emergency Arab summit on Aug. 10 to respond to the Saudi Arabian call to press for an Iraqi pullout from Kuwait and bolster the kingdom's own defences in face of the Iraqi buildup on the Kuwaiti borders.

Egypt resumed its airlift of elite combat troops to Saudi Arabia Wednesday. The soldiers bore few offensive arms but carried gas masks.

The Egyptian government's press office said Tuesday the military had scheduled a pre-dawn departure for an unspecified number of troops.

About 3,000 Egyptian soldiers flew to Saudi Arabia over the weekend, military sources in Cairo said.

Wednesday's departures are the first of up to 2,000 reinforcements the sources said. They said the numbers could increase.

Moroccan troops also have been arriving in Saudi Arabia, the diplomatic source in Riyadh said.

Pakistan is likely to send about 5,000 combat troops to Saudi Arabia, according to an army source.

"I would say that about 5,000 soldiers are about right," the army source said.

Pakistan defence sources say the government does not want to commit large numbers of troops while tension is high on the border with India over an uprising in disputed Kashmir.

It is also reluctant to get too heavily involved in the Gulf crisis when about 100,000 Pakistanis live and work in Kuwait and Iraq.

But Islamabad would not be

able to ignore a direct request from Saudi Arabia when it might need financial backing in return if the Kashmir dispute with India ends in war, one analyst said.

The news of Cheney's second visit to the region this month came as U.S. defence officials said the navy will send a fourth aircraft carrier next week to join a massive U.S. force of troops, aircraft and warships.

Defense Department spokesman Pete Williams said Cheney would visit American troops and was expected to meet with Saudi officials and possibly visit other countries in the region before returning home Tuesday of next week.

Williams also told reporters in a briefing that the Pentagon was drawing up plans for U.S. warships in the northern Arabian Sea, Gulf and Red Sea to halt any shipments of oil or other cargo leaving or entering Iraq.

"I am told that we are tracking ships in the region," he said, adding that the plan would probably include an international effort headed by the United States.

But Williams did not say how warships from Britain, France, Canada, the Soviet Union and other countries might take part in such an effort, which the White House has refused to call a "blockade."

Defense officials who asked not to be identified said the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy and its 80 warplanes would leave Norfolk, Virginia, next week on a "routine" deployment to replace the carrier Eisenhower, now in the Red Sea.

Cheney warned Iraq Tuesday that U.S. forces had a "wide range" of options to respond to any chemical arms attack by Iraq in the Gulf.

He said Bush would make the final decision on retaliation.

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## U.S. holds on to beat Argentina at world basketball games

**BUENOS AIRES**, Argentina (AP) — It seemed the Argentine fans had come to watch the wrong sport.

A packed house at 6,500-seat Luna Park sang and danced and cheered, especially when Argentina cut into a huge United States lead Monday night.

But this was a quarterfinal game of the World Basketball Championships, not a World Cup soccer final, and the United States held on to win 104-100.

"I always thought soccer was the number one sport down here," said Kenny Anderson, who led the United States with 32 points. "It was kind of crazy. I was just glad to get out there with a win."

Calling the atmosphere kind of crazy was like saying Argentina kind of came back.

The United States led 88-66 with 8:17 to play and it seemed like the quarterfinals were off to a good start for the U.S. team, which went 3-0 in qualifying-round play.

Argentina hit six 3-pointers down the stretch and American shooting, which was 22-for-31 in

the first half, cooled down. All of a sudden, there was a close game at Luna Park.

"The Argentine team was fanatic in the last six minutes," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "They were excellent throughout, but especially in the last six minutes. When a team is that hot, the only way to play defence is to keep the ball out of their hands."

The United States plays Australia, which lost to Puerto Rico 89-79, Tuesday. The last quarterfinal-round game for the United States will be Puerto Rico Wednesday.

The top two teams from each of the two four-team quarterfinal groups will advance to Friday's semifinals. The other group includes the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, which won Monday, Greece and Brazil.

In other games Monday, the Soviet Union beat Greece 75-57, Yugoslavia pounded Brazil 105-86 and Puerto Rico downed Australia 89-79.

George Torre scored 26 points for Puerto Rico, which won despite blowing an 18-point first-

half lead.

A 3-pointer by Torres with 11:50 left in the first half gave Puerto Rico a 26-8 lead. But Australia, which got 25 points from Andrew Gaze, cut the deficit to 42-38 at the half and led twice early in the second half.

Torres broke a 56-56 tie and gave Puerto Rico the lead for good with a 3-pointer with 11:19 to play. That started a 14-2 run that put Puerto Rico in charge with seven minutes to go.

**Yugoslavia 105, Brazil 86**

Drazen Petrovic, one of four National Basketball Association players on the roster, scored 27 points as Yugoslavia manhandled Brazil, which had little to support Oscar Schmidt's 40-point performance.

Yugoslavia, which won the gold medal in the recent Goodwill Games, led 52-41 at the half, then went on a 25-12 run in the first eight minutes of the second half. Petrovic, a guard for the Portland Trail Blazers, had four

3-pointers during that surge.

Toni Kukoc of the Chicago Bulls had 20 points and eight assists, Zarko Paspalj of the San Antonio Spurs added 19 points and eight rebounds, and Vlade Divac of the Los Angeles Lakers had 14 points and eight rebounds.

**Soviet Union 75, Greece 57**

Alexander Volkov had a layup and a 3-pointer during a 15-0 run midway through the second half that lifted the Soviet Union past Greece.

Two free throws by Pano Giannakis midway through the second half brought Greece to within 51-49. Over the next six minutes, the Soviets charged to a 66-49 advantage.

Volkov, who plays for the Atlanta Hawks and is one of four Soviets who played for the team that won the 1988 Olympic gold medal, finished with 23 points, 15 rebounds and six assists.

Pano Giannakis led Greece with 22 points, although he missed 17 of 22 shots, including all seven from 3-point range.

## Novacek retires from U.S. Hardcourt Championships

**INDIANAPOLIS** (AP) — Czechoslovakia's Karel Novacek was the first seeded player to be eliminated in a first-round match of the U.S. Men's Hardcourt Championships.

Novacek, the 10th seed, retired after falling behind France's Thierry Champion 6-2, 3-1.

"I'm not feeling well. My sto-

mach is very upset," Novacek said. "I think it was what I ate for breakfast at the hotel yesterday. I felt ill all day and I was sick all night."

Novacek opened the second set by holding service. But Champion won the next three games, prompting Novacek to call it a day.

## Burrell to chase record at Zurich Grand Prix

**ZURICH** (R) — Leroy Burrell chases the world 100 metres record while Kenya's finest hunt each other at Wednesday's Zurich Grand Prix, the world's richest athletics meeting.

Organisers have promised a kilogramme of gold to any athlete beating a world record, a feat Burrell considers well within his grasp.

"I've heard of the fast track here and I'm going to go for the World record," Burrell told reporters Monday.

Burrell and his fellow Ameri-

cian Michael Johnson, who runs over 200 metres here, have turned on some spectacular performance in Europe this year.

So too have the extraordinary Kenyans, who are out in force for the high point of the European season.

The Zurich meeting, with its heady mix of hot weather, a fast track, plus handsome appearance and field athlete, and you have a world record, the only thing the others can take away is the world record."

This year, Kingdom is finding it difficult to maintain the competitive edge that won him all those laurels. After winning the Olympic hurdles in 1984 and 1988, setting a world record and being named Track and Field News' Athlete of the Year, Kingdom has to explain why his results haven't been as brilliant as they were in 1989.

"People haven't paid attention that I'm coming back from an injury," Kingdom said before competing at a Monaco meet where he came in fifth, another one of a series of setbacks recently.

Lewis has since pulled a hamstring and although he is expected to be present for the meeting he is unlikely to compete.

In his absence Burrell takes on Olympic silver medallist Limford Christie, whose dream of becoming the world number one this year is already over.

Burrell has beaten the Commonwealth champion three times this season and even if the Briton were to win Wednesday statisticians are unlikely to rate him ahead of the American.

Kenyans have packed the middle-distance events with no fewer than five entered for the 800 and steeplechase specialists Julius Karuki and William Mutwiri taking part in the 5,000.

William Tanni, who devastated a field including five Olympic finalists in Brussels last Friday, runs the 800, while Yobes Ondieki, another Brussels winner, again races Olympic champion John Ngugi in the 5,000.

The 110 metres hurdles assembles the Olympic, world and Commonwealth champions in Roger Kingdom, Greg Foster and Colin Jackson as well as Renaldo Nehemiah, the first man to break 13 seconds.

"London is the only town that I don't like too much. But basically because of the weather," he says.

Almost 29 years ago, Kingdom insists that age isn't a handicap in the sport. "In track, age is not a problem. If it was, why isn't [Colin] Jackson winning everything, since he is the youngest?" asked Kingdom.

Jackson, 23, has this season's fastest time at 13.08 but still hasn't beaten Kingdom in a major championship.

In the field, the organisers have arranged a special javelin competition to allow Britain's world record holder Steve Backley a final outing before the European Championships, while American world record holder Randy Barnes competes in the shot put.

"I'm getting prepared for those events, to prove I can still be on the top," he said.

Meanwhile Roger Kingdom re-

ferred said I was supposed to play at the pace of the server, and I have 20 seconds to get in position. I know the rule.

"There was nothing I could do about it. I had to towel off."

No. 15 seed Gigi Fernandez of Aspen, Colorado, defeated Nathalie Herremans of France 7-5, 6-1.

"I'm not feeling well. My sto-

mach is very upset," Novacek said. "I think it was what I ate for breakfast at the hotel yesterday. I felt ill all day and I was sick all night."

Novacek opened the second set by holding service. But Champion won the next three games, prompting Novacek to call it a day.

## Agassi, Chang to face Austria in Davis Cup

**NEW YORK** (R) — Andre Agassi will return to the U.S. Davis Cup team to partner Michael Chang in the singles matches against Austria in next month's semifinals, the U.S. Tennis Association has announced.

Rick Leach and Jim Pugh, the world's top-ranked pairing, will play the doubles in the clash in Vienna from Sept. 21 to 23.

Agassi, 20, the world's fourth-ranked player, has apparently patched up his feud with Davis Cup Captain Tom Gorman and

will be making his 1990 Davis Cup debut. He boasts a record of 7-2 in Davis Cup singles matches.

Chang, who last year became the youngest winner of the French Open at 17, has been making steady progress this year since returning to action after a serious hip injury. Now ranked 10th in the world, he has played once before in the Davis Cup, winning both matches.

Leach and Pugh have won three doubles titles this year, including Wimbledon.

## U.K.'s Cram wins 1,500 m after a year's absence

**GROSSETO**, Italy (R) — Britain's Steve Cram ended a year's absence from top-flight competition through injury with a comfortable 1,500 metres victory in an international athletics meeting in Grosseto.

Cram, who has been dogged by calf and Achilles tendon injuries, finished in a relatively slow three minutes 35.96 seconds but his performance justified the faith of the British selectors who picked him for the European Championships in split.

The 29-year-old Cram, European champion in 1982 and 1986,

took the lead at the bell and went on to win by 25 metres from Italy's Davide Tirelli.

The easy victory was a welcome boost to his self-confidence ahead of the European Championships later this month.

Said Cram: "I came here to run 3:37 or 3:38 so I have to be satisfied.

Cram, looking comfortable and relatively untroubled by the heat and wind, tucked into second place for the first three laps but broke away just after the bell to stride out alone for the final 400 metres.

## Irish horse racing gets much needed shot in arm

By Paul Majendie  
Reuter

DUBLIN — Irish horse racing, a national treasure with empty coffers, has won the state funding it desperately needed to boost prize money, improve racecourses, research and brighten its image.

For owners, trainers, breeders and officials all agree — the industry was in a state of crisis and needed a hefty injection of funds to stay internationally competitive.

Irish jumping heroes like Dawn Run and Arkle, flat-racing stars like Nijinsky, Sir Ivor and The Minstrel once dominated European racing in the glory days.

Now overseas owners plunder all the big prizes; race-sponsorship has fallen and the number of racehorses in training has slumped by almost 20 per cent in a decade. Phoenix Park, one of Dublin's premier courses, is due to close this year.

The Irish are passionate about horse racing. It ranks alongside Guinness stout beer as a national asset and when the industry made its cry for help, Prime Minister Charles Haughey came galloping to the rescue.

Haughey, who gave the breeding industry a massive boost 20 years ago when he exempted stallion fees from tax, has pledged nine million Pounds (\$13.5 million) over the next three years to the showwindow industry that employs 25,000 people.

The racing lobby won a friendly hearing. Haughey, a keen racing fan, owner and breeder himself, once more emerged as the "white knight" who raced to help.

Now the racing board has announced how it will spend the first tranche of money in year one.

Improvement grants will give racecourses a much-needed boost; prize money is to rise by at least 25 per cent at the lower end of the scale and a marketing

campaign launched to improve the image of an industry labelled "fiddlers on the hoof," by one Irish parliamentarian.

A new racing centre for apprentices is to be built — Ireland has produced a string of world-class jockeys from Pat Eddery to Michael Kinane — and the Equine Research Centre will also get a funds boost for virology research.

Critics argue that Ireland already has too much racing in too many courses. It has 28 racecourses for a population of 3.5 million while Britain has 59 courses for a population of 60 million.

But the attendance figures show that the enthusiasm is there if the right formula can be found — attendance topped 1.1 million last year and betting turnover was up two per cent.

Then come the two gloomy statistics — prize money fell by 0.4 per cent and sponsorship, so crucial for the good health of a racecourse, was down by almost eight per cent.

But not all is gloom and despondency. On the racing front, the Dermot Weld-trained Go And Go gave Ireland a tremendous boost in June when winning the Belmont Stakes.

The Colt, steered to an effortlessly easy triumph by big-race specialist Kinane, was the first European horse ever to win a leg of the coveted American Triple Crown.

Sadlers Wells, standing at Coolmore Stud in County Tipperary, is this year's undoubted stallion star in Europe.

His sons and daughters have now captured 10 group ones.

Old Vic won last year's Irish and French Derby Races and Salisbally landed this year's English 1,000 Guineas, Epsom Oaks and Irish Derby.

"Coolmore is hot as a pistol," boasts part owner Robert Sangster.

Yesterday's Jumbles: TESTY ABBOT ASYLUM CHUBBY

Answer: What you might expect to have face when you arrive at the North Pole — SOUTH

## HOROSCOPE

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1990  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A beautiful day and evening for you to become renewed in the spirit of achieving the right pathway toward success, right-action and happiness. Keep expecting the best possible results.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Your own personal progress can be greatly expedited today if you approach your activities from a new slant and then avoid making material commitments.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You need to become imbued anew with your aspirations and plan to make them work with more secrecy if you are to succeed in obtaining them.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Be on the lookout for new friends and acquaintances now; if it is through them you can make your swiftest progress and don't pass over a private concern.

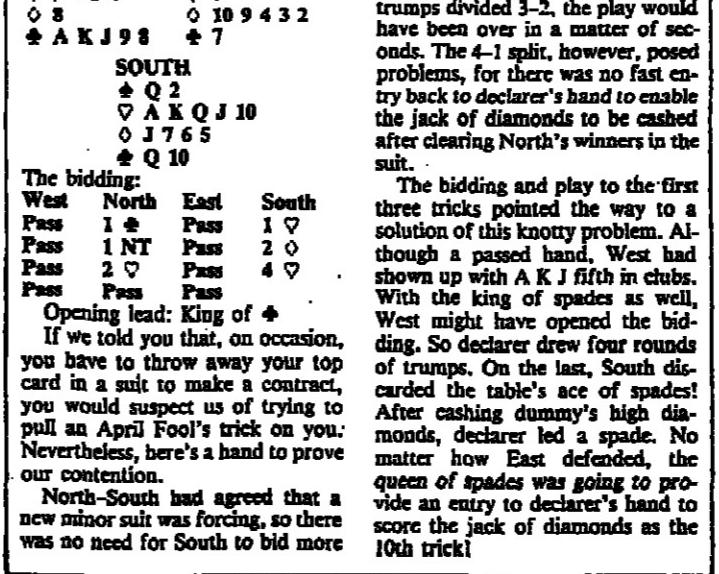
**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 22) Be on the quivve for some intelligent suggestions from imaginative and mentally aware individuals for more advancement in world of outside activity.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) A jovial person will be willing to go along with a plan you have for enjoying yourself and your recreations more thoroughly and happy.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Rely more upon your own judgment what course is best to pursue at your home so that everyone there is more contented and happy.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) A great day to get out communications for those at a distance and in which your best judgment needs to be utilized to your advantage.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Money and business matters should occupy your attention today so look for ways to add to your holdings and put them in effect at one.



# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1990

## Report estimates Iraqi reserves rising by \$4b from Kuwaiti assets

**NEW YORK (R)** — Iraq has transferred between \$3 billion and \$4 billion in gold, foreign currencies and goods seized from financial and commercial institutions in Kuwait, the New York Times reported Tuesday.

Quoting Arab bankers in London and the Gulf region, the newspaper said the seizures had considerably increased Iraq's financial reserves.

While Iraq has never revealed the size of its reserves of gold and negotiable currencies, British and Arab bankers say they stood at an estimated \$6.5 billion before Baghdad's takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2.

Arab officials said the Iraqi takeover has also resulted in the seizure of civilian and military aircraft, fleets of new cars and large amounts of machinery, food and other goods.

"We are talking about gold, cash, cars, airplanes, tankers and a lot of military hardware which fell intact into the hands of the Iraqis on the first days of the invasion," the newspaper quoted a bank chairman, who asked not to be identified, as saying.

Bankers said they estimated the Kuwaiti central bank, looted by Iraqi troops on the first day of the invasion, had held 2.5 million ounces worth \$1 billion.

The bank also had an estimated year's supply of Kuwaiti dinars, or the equivalent of \$350 million, as well as several hundred million dollars in other currencies, including U.S. dollars, Swiss and French francs and pounds sterling.

The newspaper did not give a precise estimate of the worth of the other goods seized.

## Experts regret missing chance to formulate U.S. energy policy

**WASHINGTON (R)** — Energy experts say the U.S. government missed its chance to formulate a national energy policy during president Ronald Reagan's administration and it is now too late to do much to cope with the Gulf crisis.

"Basically this has caught Washington asleep at the switch," said Senate Energy Committee aide Benjamin Cooper.

A period of relatively stable oil prices through the 1980s saw environmental and economic concerns outstrip energy security in a trend continued under President George Bush.

"If you look back there was a very fine energy security report done in 1987 and it really was devoted to this notion that our energy security is deteriorating as a result of our increasing dependence on foreign oil," said Linda Stantz, deputy undersecretary at the Energy Department.

"We didn't do a very good job of getting it implemented." The balance between environmental protection, economics and energy security has gotten skewed," she noted.

Stantz is heading the department's development of a new energy plan that is not due to be implemented until 1991. She said the Energy Department is putting together a list of options to reduce consumption and increase domestic supplies.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, August 14, 1990 Central Bank official rates		
Buy	Sell	
French franc	125.5	125.5
Japanese yen (for 100)	441.3	441.3
Dutch guilder	370.9	373.3
Swedish crown	113.5	114.2
Italian lira (for 100)	57.0	57.3
Belgian franc	202.9	204.1
Swiss franc	500.5	503.5

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.		
One Sterling	1.8860/70	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1467/72	Canadian dollar
	1.5763/70	Deutschmarks
	1.7750/60	Dutch guilders
	1.3147/57	Swiss francs
	32.42/47	Belgian francs
	5.2920/70	French francs
	11.58/1159	Italian lire
	149.85/95	Japanese yen
	5.7960/8010	Swedish crowns
	6.1095/45	Norwegian crowns
	6.0235/85	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	411.50/412.50	U.S. dollars

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## Saudi central bank provides funds to ease liquidity bind

**DUBAI (R)** — The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) stepped in Tuesday to help its banking system which has been besieged by calls for cash from worried depositors since Iraq moved into Kuwait.

Dealers in the kingdom said the central bank had made it easier for banks to get funds by allowing them to use a greater percentage of government bond holdings as security to borrow.

"This gives us more room to breathe," said one Saudi bank treasury manager.

The bank has effectively put a cap on short-term Saudi interbank interest rates, which had been rising inexorably as banks fought for funds.

SAMA's temporary help has been through what central bankers call a repurchase facility whereby they are willing to take back their own state bonds as collateral for lending back into the system with the banks repurchasing the bonds later.

Dealers said the bank had temporarily raised the amount banks could borrow through SAMA's repurchase facility to 50 per cent of their holdings of state development bonds.

Previous limits on such borrowing were 10 per cent for non-market makers in the bonds, and 25 per cent for market makers. SAMA will charge 10 per cent for loans through the facility on any borrowing above these limits and up to the new 50 per cent limit.

Dealers said the move was already affecting short-term rates which had been creeping over 10 per cent in the market.

"This is a positive sign and is effectively a cap on rates," said another Saudi bank dealer.

## Japan to aid Gulf states

**TOKYO (R)** — Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told the United States Tuesday that Japan would offer economic assistance to nations affected by an embargo on trade in the region, government officials said.

U.S. President George Bush called Kaifu Tuesday morning to urge Japan to make "substantial contributions" to countries affected by the Mideast Gulf crisis, a government official told reporters in a news conference.

"I hope Japan will cooperate as much as possible by offering economic assistance to countries in the region," he quoted Bush as saying.

The government's top spokesman, Misao Sakamoto, said earlier that Kaifu had told Bush "the government has just entered consultations regarding what type of assistance Japan will offer."

In a cabinet meeting Tuesday, Kaifu said he would definitely visit the Middle East after the government had finalised an aid package.

## M.E. tension brings up political risk insurance

**HARTFORD, Connecticut (R)** — Iraq's take-over of Kuwait and resulting losses suffered by American businesses in the area has opened many executives' eyes to the need for political risk insurance, industry officials say.

U.S. companies doing business in the Middle East have become more keenly aware of the potential threat to their business contracts, property and employees' lives, said Daniel Wagner, a political risk broker in the international division of Johnson and Higgins Inc., an insurance brokerage based in New York.

"Doing business in the Middle

East is tricky. It involves problems that call for political risk insurance," Wagner said.

Iraq is defaulting on its foreign debt, some \$100 billion in Kuwaiti assets have been frozen by more than 20 countries and American business properties in Kuwait are under threat of being seized by the Iraqis.

Two weeks ago, few could have predicted this would happen, Wagner said. And U.S. companies operating in Kuwait without political risk insurance are facing major losses, he noted.

"People are starting to see that this could happen in other parts of the Middle East, and they want protection," he said.

Francis Boylan, a senior vice president at the New York-based insurance brokerage Alexander and Alexander Services Inc., said there has been a rise in requests for political risk insurance from businesses operating in Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

While no one wishes for political instability or volatility in a nation's leadership, such situations do highlight the value of political risk insurance, Boylan said.

But executives often reconsider their companies' level of exposure and need for insurance only after a crisis has occurred.

"The best time to buy this coverage, though, is when things are calm because the price is lower," Boylan said.

Buying political risk coverage now for operations in the Gulf is like trying to buy fire insurance on a burning building — you can get it, but it will be costly, said Jack Willyard, a vice president at Sedgwick James Ltd., a London-based brokerage.

The metal opened in London at \$407.45 an ounce after closing Monday at \$404.25. In early European trading it touched a peak of around \$412.50 before easing to around \$410 by 0900 GMT.

The dollar was stuck in a narrow trading range on a market devoid of fresh news to budge it, dealers said.

Oil prices continued their recent climb, propelled by uncertainty over what would happen next in the Gulf, where United States ground forces were fanning out into front-line defences.

Brent blend crude from Britain's North Sea fields, the most widely traded oil on international markets, was traded in London at \$25.60 a barrel for October delivery, up 60 cents on Monday's close in London.

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## Gulf crisis undermines Bahrain's role

**DUBAI (R)** — The Iraqi take-over of Kuwait has seriously undermined confidence in Bahrain's offshore banking market just when its fortunes were improving, senior bankers in the region say.

Bankers said the BMA was being strict in its advice to banks to stop withdrawals.

"Confidence in Bahrain is of the utmost importance. That has been broken. Even with a complete political calmdown the effects of this will be felt for a long time," said a treasury manager.

Bankers are divided on the wisdom of the Bahrain Monetary Authority's (BMA) advice to banks not to repay time deposits ahead of maturity in order to preserve liquidity.

"To suddenly say that deposits cannot be broken before maturity has created a lot of... awkward situations for us here," said a manager of one bank in the United Arab Emirates which takes in funds and places them in the Bahrain market.

But a senior Bahrain banker said: "Banks do not have a legal obligation to repay ahead of maturity. No open and free banking system anywhere can remain unaffected by the threat of war. We have to protect the system."

He said the run of deposits was

creating a disorderly situation in Bahrain's only offshore banking market.

Bahrain's offshore market was largely built to meet the needs of governmental and private investors who wanted a local market to park the tens of billions of dollars that the Gulf generated during the oil boom of the 1970s.

The oil price crash and the shadow cast over regional economies during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s sharply reduced this huge pool of regional liquidity which supported the Bahrain-based banks' offshore deposit base.

The creation of global financial markets during the past decade also undermined the need for a purely regional market when funds could so easily be switched anywhere, anytime.

But the end of the Gulf war, stable oil prices, a pickup in regional economies and some innovative financial marketing encouraged by the BMA were improving the market's fortunes.

The BMA reported Bahrain offshore banking unit dollar assets at end-March, 1990, at \$73.33 billion, a record even compared with the oil boom days.

## Tokyo stock market rebounds

**TOKYO (AP)** — Strong performance on overseas markets overnight lifted share prices on the Tokyo stock exchange sharply Tuesday, while the U.S. dollar slipped against the Japanese yen.

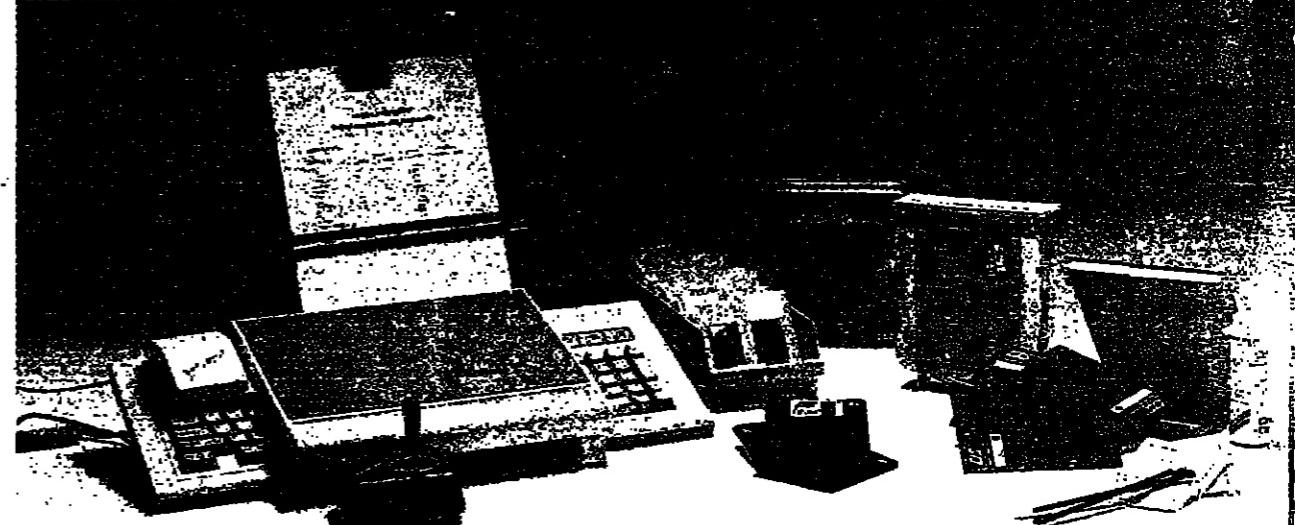
The Nikkei stock average of 225 selected issues won back 496.10 points, or 1.90 per cent, to close at 26,672.53.

The benchmark index suffered

a loss of 1,153.12 points, or 4.22 per cent, Monday after Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu announced the cancellation of his planned trip to the Middle East because of the worsening Gulf crisis.

Traders attributed the index's rebound to bullish showings in overseas markets, especially in New York. Bargain hunting fol-

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## Liberian rebel leader to hold talks in Gambia

### Taylor says Johnson killed

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — A spokesman for rebel leader Charles Taylor said Tuesday that rival rebel leader Prince Johnson was killed by Taylor's forces.

"Johnson was trying to get out of Monrovia when he ran into our forces," said Tom Woewiyu. "The report could not be immediately confirmed."

Woewiyu said the rebel troops killed Johnson in an ambush on Bushrod Island in Monrovia, the capital.

Woewiyu, who also serves as defence minister for Taylor's National Patriotic Front, said Johnson was killed Tuesday morning and his body has been taken to NPF headquarters.

He disclosed the killing of Johnson in a telephone interview with the Associated Press.

Both Taylor and Johnson had threatened to kill each other following their split three months ago.

Johnson's men have held much of Monrovia for several weeks

after launching a surprise attack from a swamp north of the city. They caught President Samuel Doe's troops by surprise and took control of the city's port and several residential districts.

Taylor's forces were meanwhile blocked by Doe's troops 10 kilometres from the city centre in the suburb of Paynesville.

Johnson told reporters he would prevent Taylor from capturing the capital and would drive Doe from the executive mansion, where the president has been holed up for two months.

The report of Johnson's death comes as efforts to organise intervention by an African peacekeeping force appeared to be meeting further delays.

Troops from Ghana, Nigeria,

Guinea, Sierra Leone and Gambia have gathered in neighbouring Sierra Leone, but there was no sign of an early departure.

Woewiyu said Taylor would be flying to Banjul, Gambia, this week to talk with Gambia Pres-

dent Sir Dawda Jawara, head of the African mediation committee trying to end the nearly eight-month civil war in Liberia.

This seemed likely to delay the arrival of the peacekeeping force.

In the same Tuesday interview, Woewiyu said that West African intervention without the approval of the National Patriotic Front "would be a mistake. We will meet it with all our might and force."

Woewiyu also accused Guinea of having sent up to 200 troops into Liberia to fight with Doe. "There already are some serious foreign troops in Liberia. This frantic peacekeeping effort is being made to cover up the fact that some foreign soldiers are already there."

Guinea has accused Taylor's rebels of crossing into its territory to kill Mandingos, whom the rebels accuse of supporting Doe's government. Guinea also accused Taylor's men of attacking its embassy and taking several

embassy guards hostage.

Reporters with the rebels said one Guinea soldier taken by the rebels said he was an embassy guard.

Woewiyu said he had proof of Guinean involvement in the fighting, and that some Guinea soldiers had been captured, carrying their identity documents. He said this was separate from the incident at the embassy and did not involve any embassy staff or guards.

Meanwhile more than 100 foreigners evacuated from war-torn Liberia by U.S. military helicopters began arriving in neighbouring Sierra Leone Tuesday.

The 105-strong group left the Spanish and German embassy compounds in the Liberian capital Monrovia Sunday and travelled in a convoy of 25 cars.

From there the group, including 16 Spaniards and 15 Germans, was airlifted by helicopter to the U.S. Navy carrier Saipan Monday morning.

### Canadians clash again with police near Indian stronghold

CHATEAUGUAY, Quebec (AP) — A crowd clashed with police for the second day Monday, angry over a bridge blockade that has forced residents to take long detours to Montreal.

The slogan-shouting crowd included about 100 youngsters armed with firebombs, baseball bats and tire irons who tossed rocks, ball bearings and gas caps at more than 200 federal and provincial police.

After two rounds of tear gas, the crowd was driven down the town's main street. Twenty-five people were arrested.

Camille Gagnon, a provincial police spokesman, said some of those arrested carried guns, knives and metal pipes.

The sides clashed just in front of police barricades blocking the highway leading to the Mercier Bridge, the link to Montreal that has been blocked since July 11 in sympathy with a Mohawk protest 18 miles away at Oka.

The Mohawks at Oka have for several months been manning a barricade to stop the town from expanding its golf course onto Indian-claimed land. That stand-off led to a July 11 gunbattle

between Indians and Quebec police. One police officer died in the gun battle, though it is not yet clear whether he was shot by Mohawks or his own men in the melee. The two sides have faced each other across barricades since then.

Residents nearer Montreal have become increasingly frustrated at the sympathy barricade Mohawks build at the main commuter bridge over the St. Lawrence River. The almost nightly counter-protests erupted into a four-hour riot Sunday night.

Yvon Poitras, leader of a group of Chateauguay residents protesting the blockade, said it's time for the provincial government to bring in the army, which has been on standby since last week at the request of Premier Robert Bourassa.

"If the army doesn't come in to Chateauguay to replace the police on the barricade, then we will have a bloodbath," said the former provincial police officer.

Police and demonstrators clashed Sunday night after Poitras' group staged a protest earlier in the day on a drawbridge west of Chateauguay on the St. Law-

rence Seaway. Riot police moved in with clubs to remove the protesters.

Later, the police used tear gas to disperse an angry crowd that had swelled to more than 5,000. The protesters threw bricks and rocks at the police. Twenty-five people were arrested.

There were no serious injuries but many of those involved said the police used excessive force.

Canadian Indian leaders told South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu Monday that their patience was running out in the search for a peaceful settlement.

The anti-apartheid campaigner and Nobel Peace Prize winner had travelled to this remote northern outpost to see firsthand the poverty and powerlessness of Canadian Indians which has prompted growing militancy and a violent white backlash.

Georges Erasmus, nation chief of the assembly of first nations, told Tutu that Indians are living in Third World conditions, desperately poor and suffering from self-inflicted violence. "Time for negotiations is short ... we can't hold the lid on the impatience of our people."

### Gunmen kill 2 Colombians

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — A former judge and an ex-congressman who spent 16 years in Colombia's House of Representatives were murdered by terrorists Monday, police said.

Three assailants threw a grenade at former congressman Eusebio Munoz while he was walking on the street in the southwestern city of Cali, according to a police report.

Also Monday, gunmen murdered Carlos Campo, a former judge, in the northern coastal city of Barranquilla, police said. No motive was established, and the perpetrators escaped, police said.

The three suspects were arrested after a brief gunbattle

with police, the report said. Police gave no motives for the murder.

Cali is home to one of Colombia's two powerful cocaine cartels. The other is based in Medellin.

After retiring as a congressman of the ruling Liberal Party, Munoz became a city councilman in Buenaventura, Colombia's main port on the Pacific.

Campo had been the president of Colombia's Atlantic Superior Court. He returned to his private law practice six months ago, police said.

Meanwhile residents of a small town where a slain billionaire drug lord once built an empire

have called a general strike to protest authorities' recent treatment of their city, officials said.

Residents of the Pacho have taken over the mayor's office and a local radio station to protest the military occupation that began after Jose Gonzalez Rodriguez Gacha's death, said Fernando Munoz, Pacho's mayor.

"All business activity and the town itself is totally paralyzed," Munoz said in statements aired on the RCN radio network.

Rodriguez Gacha — the Medellin cocaine cartel's no. 2 man — reputedly owned most of his home town, about 80 kilometres north of Bogota, the capital.

With a rise in tensions between French and English and the slowing of the Canadian economy, government support has slipped to under 20 per cent, while the Liberals under new leader Jean Chretien are out in front with twice the support.

Polls showed voters in Montreal's East End voting district, a poor blue-collar area, were eager to elect Duceppe to Ottawa and show their unhappiness with the failure of the so-called Meech Lake Accord.

Quebec refused to sign Canada's new constitution in 1982 because it was not granted special powers to protect its French language from assimilation.

Mulroney reached a deal at Meech Lake, Quebec in 1987 to recognise Quebec as a "distinct society" within the Canadian constitution but the accord was killed after English-speaking provinces Newfoundland and Manitoba failed to approve it.

After the accord died, seven members of parliament from Quebec bolted the Conservative Party and the opposition Liberals to form the Bloc Quebecois and fight for Quebec independence at the federal level.

The bloc's leader is Lucien Bouchard, a popular Quebecer and one-time close associate of Mulroney who vows to use the group to win concessions for Quebec.

"Too often, unfortunately, our own people who we sent to Ottawa turn against us and were used as instruments to put Quebec in its place," Bouchard said in campaign speech for Duceppe.

While Mulroney's House of Commons majority is not at stake in the by-elections, the election of a Quebec separatist could prove an unwelcome harbinger for him in his home province.

The New York Stock Exchange was not affected by the outage. But the American Stock Exchange, New York Mercantile Exchange and Commodity Exchange halted trading for the day at 1 p.m. (1700 GMT).

Hundreds of people were stuck in elevators at the World Trade Centre for up to 2½ hours until a backup generator brought the lifts down one by one, said D. Joy Faber, a spokeswoman for the port authority, which operates the 110-story twin skyscrapers.

All afternoon Monday, workers streamed out of affected buildings in search of pay phones, buses, subways and, after walking down scores of flights of stairs, something cold to drink — much

to the delight of street vendors.

Unable to use Manhattan's subway trains, people walked across the Brooklyn Bridge in 85-degree weather to catch trains on the other side of the East River.

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"But even now, thousands of cases haven't been considered,

### Manila arrests top Communist rebel

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Intelligence agents Tuesday arrested a member of the outlawed Philippine Communist Party's Central Committee while he was driving a car in a Manila suburb, the military announced.

Brig.-Gen. Gerardo Flores, chief of staff of the Philippine Constabulary, identified the captured rebel as Vicente Ladlad, chief of the party's education and training committee and a regular member of its Central Committee.

Meanwhile more than 100 foreigners evacuated from war-torn Liberia by U.S. military helicopters began arriving in neighbouring Sierra Leone Tuesday.

The 105-strong group left the Spanish and German embassy compounds in the Liberian capital Monrovia Sunday and travelled in a convoy of 25 cars.

From there the group, including 16 Spaniards and 15 Germans, was airlifted by helicopter to the U.S. Navy carrier Saipan Monday morning.

Flores, who is also the constabulary's intelligence chief, said Ladlad, 41, was driving near the Broadway shopping centre in Quezon City when intelligence agents intercepted his car.

Ladlad was arrested with a companion identified as Emilio Quezon Avancena. Avancena, a grandson of the Philippine Commonwealth President Manuel Quezon, was released, Flores added.

Soldiers seized a .38-caliber pistol from Ladlad, who did not resist, Flores said.

Ladlad was a former student activist at the state-run University of the Philippines at Los Baños in Laguna province. He went underground in 1972 when the late President Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law.

Ladlad was first arrested in 1983 but was released in 1986 when President Corazon Aquino freed political prisoners among her first acts after ousting Marcos that year.

A handcuffed Ladlad was briefly presented to reporters but was not allowed to talk. Ladlad will be brought to a military hospital where he will be treated for chronic asthma.

In another development, army troopers Saturday arrested a renegade army officer allegedly involved in the failed December coup attempt.

A report reaching the Philippine army headquarters identified the officer as 2nd Lt. George Bacani, formerly a member of the Army's Honor Guard Battalion, said army spokesman Lt. Col. Benjamin Enrile.

He said that police surrounded the building after the Belgians

arrived.

Spain has insisted that all those in its embassy should be given asylum.

Earlier this summer, Cuban asylum-seekers invaded homes of Czechoslovakian and Italian diplomats. They eventually left those buildings.

India accuses Pakistan of arming, training and harbouring the Muslim militants, which Islamabad denies. Pakistan contends that India is using brute force to crush an indigenous independence movement.

The uprising has claimed more than 950 lives since Indian forces launched its latest and harshest crackdown in late January.

Half of priests violate celibacy rule

BOSTON (AP) — Up to half of Roman Catholic priests in the United States do not uphold their vows of celibacy, according to estimates from a 25-year study by a former Catholic priest who is now a psychotherapist, A.W. Richard Sipe.

Sipe told a forum at the American Psychological Association meeting that his study indicated 20 per cent of priests "have a clear pattern of heterosexual behaviour."

The report "continued with the most cruel persistence for several decades," it said.

"Stalin and his immediate entourage seized practically unlimited power, depriving the Soviet people of freedoms that in a democratic society are considered to be natural and inalienable," it continued.

Western historians say as many as 20 million people were shot, starved to death in famines the Kremlin did everything to encourage, or simply vanished into the Gulag during Stalin's reign of terror.

Thousands of Stalin's victims

were released from Labour camps and rehabilitated after Nikita Khrushchev denounced

the dictator in a secret speech to the party in 1956, three years after Stalin died.

The work stalled during Leonid Brezhnev's years in power, but picked up again after Gorbachev came to power in 1985.

In a landmark speech in

### Thousands of S. Koreans rally for unification

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

Thousands of radical students chanting "unification" rallied Tuesday night for opening the heavily fortified border with Communist North Korea.

Earlier in the day, 79 radical students and dissidents were arrested at the sprawling U.S. 8th Army headquarters in central Seoul, five of them for ramming a car through the main gate.

During the rally, about 10,000 students at Seoul's Yonsei University chanted, "free travel, total border opening." Radical leaders snipped rolls of barbed wire with wire cutters to symbolise cutting the barriers between the bitterly divided Koreas.

Student leaders said thousands of citizens, dissidents and students were expected to march to the border Wednesday to attend a unification rally at the truce village of Panmunjom.

"Withdraw U.S. troops which heighten tension and block unification," read a large banner at the border.

Dozens of radical students shouting "unification" tried to ram their way through guards at the bridge, to the students.

"Let's drive out the Yankees who block unification of the fatherland," the students shouted, jabbing sticks in the air.

They demanded the withdrawal of some 43,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, saying their presence hinders dialogue with the North on unification.